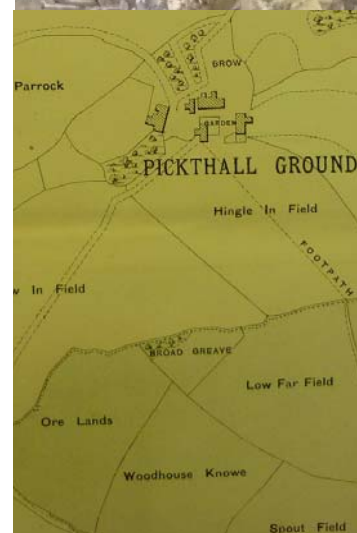


BARN AT PICKTHALL GROUND FARM, BROUGHTON MILLS, BROUGHTON-IN-FURNESS, CUMBRIA

Archaeological Building Recording



Client: Mr and Mrs Lainson

NGR: 320966 490503

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July 2010



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Non-Technical Summary

As part of a Higher Level Stewardship Agreement it is proposed to restore a traditional farm building at Pickthall Ground Farm, Broughton Mills, Cumbria. In order to complete a management plan for the site an archaeological building recording was required by Natural England, as well as the compilation of background information regarding the history and development of the site. The building recording was to be equivalent to an English Heritage Level 2 type, and was to be carried out prior to any renovation works, although it may involve some additional recording during and after renovation. Following the provision of a project design by Greenlane Archaeology the work on site was carried out in June 2010.

The name Pickthall Ground suggests that the settlement was enclosed by Furness Abbey at the start of the 16th century in a series of agreements mentioned in the Coucher Book between the abbey and squatters on its marginal land. This suggests that a farm would have existed at the site, although this would probably have been replaced by the current buildings. The barn at Pickthall Ground appears to be a traditional bank barn, but there is little documentary evidence relating to it prior to the first Ordnance Survey map of the area, published in 1850. It certainly pre-dates this, and its form suggests it is of at least late 18th or early 19th century date. Documentary evidence does exist relating to the farmstead, although this typically only comprises the names of individuals associated with Pickthall Ground and its land, rather than specific details about the farm. The map evidence is more useful in showing the physical development of the site, although this is largely late in date.

The building recording revealed that it had originally comprised a small threshing barn, which although not easily dateable could belong to the earliest phases of activity at Pickthall Ground. It was subsequently enlarged, probably in the 18th and 19th century, by being raised in height and having a porch added to the wagon doorway on the east side and a canopy to the one to the west, and a small extension was added to the west. At roughly the same time the ground to the west and probably north was raised, creating the appearance of a bank barn and obscuring much of these elevations. In the 20th century all of the ventilation slots and owl holes were blocked, as was the east wagon doorway and west doorway, and the west wagon doorway was modified. A concrete block partition wall was added on the north side, and a small room created with an inserted ceiling and added window. Most recently the building has fallen into disrepair and some minor repairs have been made to the roof at the south-east end.

The building is a good example of what is essentially an 18th to 19th century threshing barn, remodelling an earlier one. It has much of its original roof structure and other features remaining although the more recent additions are somewhat detrimental to its character and it is in need of substantial repair.

Acknowledgements

Greenlane Archaeology would like to thank Mr and Mrs Lainson for commissioning the project, for their information about the site, and their hospitality during the building recording and Mike Darwell of John Coward Architects Limited for providing the 'as existing' drawings of the site and the brief from Natural England. Additional thanks are due to the staff of the Cumbria Record Office in Barrow-in-Furness for their help with accessing their archives.

The desk-based assessment was carried out by Dan Elsworth and Sam Whitehead, the building recording was carried out by Dan Elsworth. The report was produced by Dan Elsworth, Sam Whitehead, and Tom Mace, and edited by Jo Dawson. Dan Elsworth managed the project.

1. Introduction

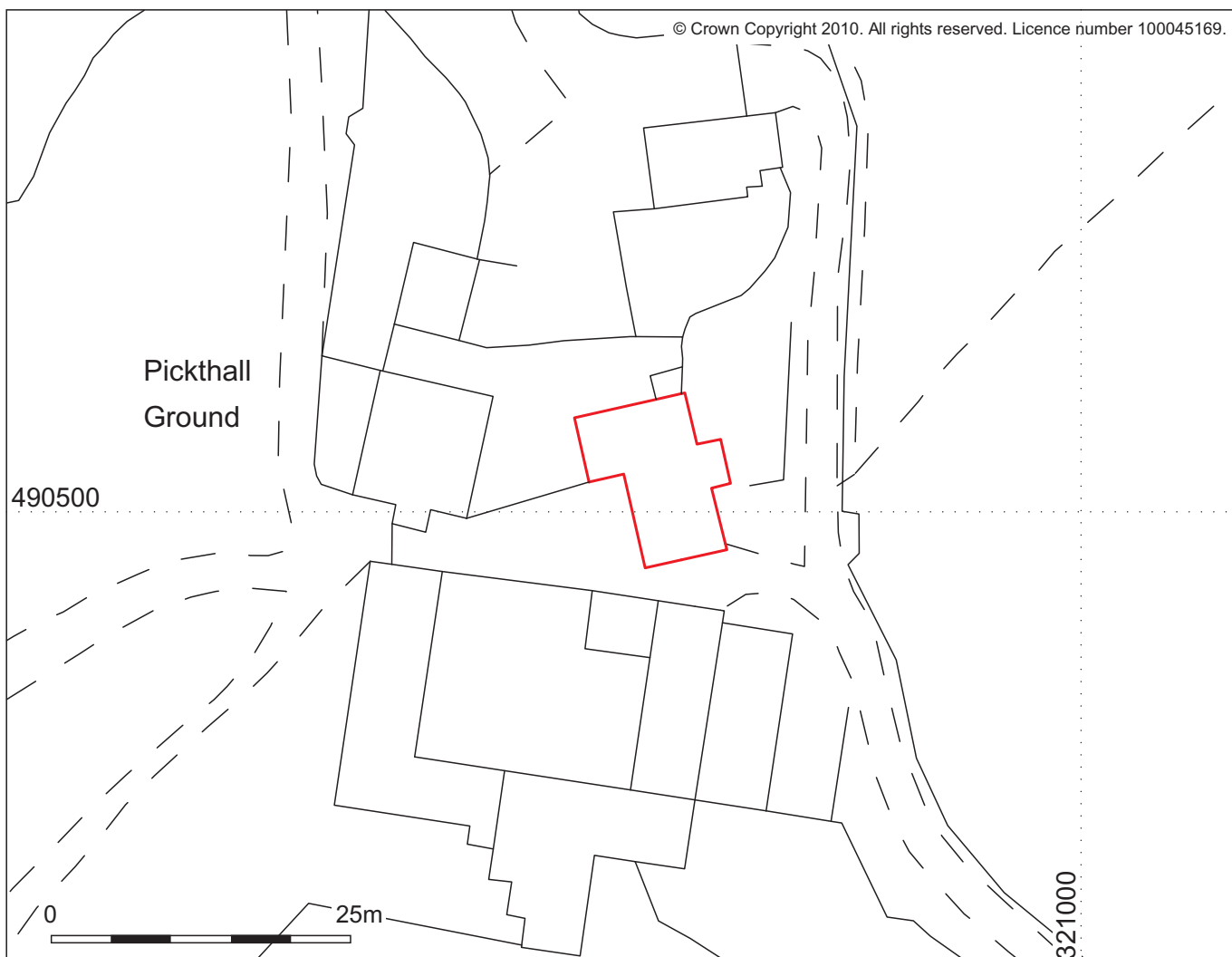
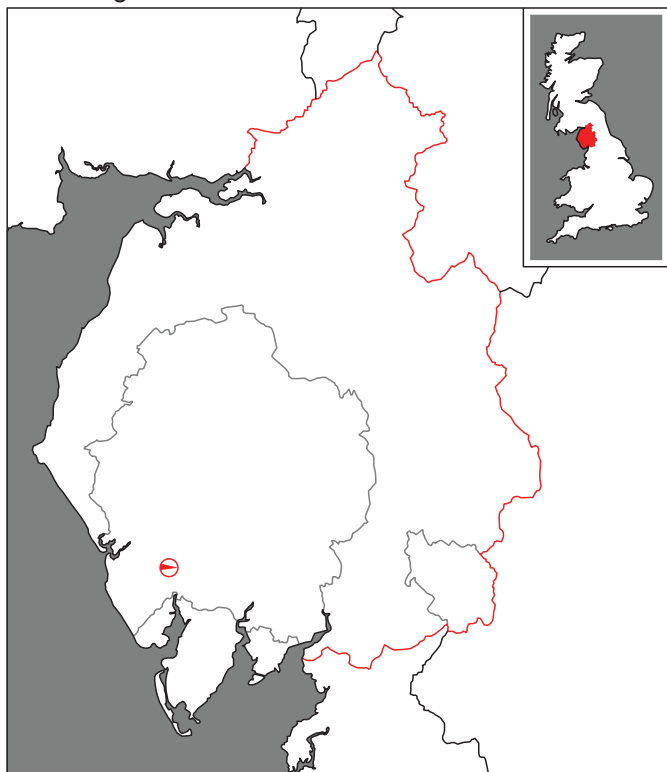
1.1 Circumstances of the Project

1.1.1 As part of a Higher Level Stewardship Agreement it is proposed to restore a traditional barn at Pickthall Ground Farm, Broughton Mills, Broughton-in-Furness, Cumbria (NGR 320966 490503) a level 2 programme of Archaeological Building Recording (English Heritage 2006) was requested by Natural England, after consultation with Peter McCrone (North West Regional Historic Environment Officer at Natural England), who provided a brief for the work, in order to complete a management plan for the site. Greenlane Archaeology produced a project design for the project and carried on site work in June 2010.

1.2 Location, Geology, and Topography

1.2.1 Pickthall Ground is situated approximately 1km west of Broughton Mills and 3km north of Broughton-in-Furness, at the top of a steep valley side above the River Lickle at a height of approximately 150m above sea level (Ordnance Survey 2005).

1.2.2 The underlying solid geology is dominated by rocks of the Borrowdale volcanic groups, although the site is close to the junction between these and the large area of Bannisdale slates to the south-east (Moseley 1978, plate 1). The solid geology is overlain by glacially derived boulder clay, which is typically more prevalent in the valley bottoms (Countryside Commission 1998, 33).



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Figure 1: Site location

2. Methodology

2.1 Introduction

2.1.1 The building investigation comprised three separate elements intended to provide a suitable record of the structure, in line with English Heritage standards (English Heritage 2006), and the guidelines of the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA 2008a). In addition a desk-based assessment was carried out in accordance with the project design and IfA guidelines (IfA 2008b) prior to the building recording, and a suitable archive was compiled to provide a permanent paper record of the project and its results in accordance with English Heritage and IfA guidelines (English Heritage 1991; Brown 2007).

2.2 Desk-Based Assessment

2.2.1 A number of sources of information were used during the desk-based assessment:

- **Cumbria Record Office, Barrow in Furness (CRO(B))**: this was visited in order to examine early maps and plans of the site and relevant primary and secondary sources;
- **Greenlane Archaeology library**: additional secondary sources were used to provide information for the site background.

2.3 Building Recording

2.3.1 The building recording was carried out to English Heritage Level-2 type standards (English Heritage 2006). This is largely descriptive investigation, with a limited level of interpretation of the phasing and use of the building, making use of the available documentary information. The recording comprised several parts:

- **Written record**: descriptive records of all parts of the building were made using Greenlane Archaeology *pro forma* record sheets;
- **Photographs**: photographs in both 35mm colour print and colour digital format were taken of the main features of the building, its general surroundings, and any features of architectural or archaeological interest. A selection of the colour digital photographs is included in this report, and the remaining photographs are in the project archive;
- **Drawings**: drawings were produced by hand-annotating 'as existing' drawings provided by the architect. The drawings produced comprised:
 - i. 'as existing' floor plans of the building at 1:100;
 - ii. 'as existing' elevations of all accessible external aspects at 1:100;
 - iii. a cross-section at a scale of 1:50.

2.3.2 The original brief included the possibility of further recording work during and after renovation, the potential for which is discussed in *Section 5.2*. As a minimum photographs of the building will be taken after the renovation is complete.

2.4 Archive

2.4.1 A comprehensive archive of the project has been produced in accordance with the project design and current IfA and English Heritage guidelines (Brown 2007; English Heritage 1991). The paper and digital archive and a copy of this report will be deposited in the Cumbria Record Office in Barrow-in-Furness on completion of the project. A copy of this report will be deposited with the Historic Environment Record at the Cumbria County Council offices in Kendal, one with the client, a digital copy with the client's architect for inclusion or incorporation in the Management Plan submitted to Natural England, and one will be retained by Greenlane Archaeology. In addition a digital record of the project will be made on the *Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations* (OASIS) scheme.

3. Desk-Based Assessment

3.1 Background History

3.1.1 The history of Pickthall Ground essentially begins in the early 16th century, although the wider area has evidence for several millennia of activity (see DVLHG and LDNP 2009). Only information relevant to the site has been included in the background history, although until the 19th century there is remarkably little recorded about it.

3.1.2 In the early part of the 16th century the monasteries of the north were generally prospering and expanding, and documents collected in the Coucher Book of Furness Abbey show changes occurring on the vast estates under monastic control (Millward and Robinson 1970, 177). During this time the Abbey made formal agreements with squatters on monastic grounds over the enclosure and creation of new farms (*ibid*). Each of these new wave of farms had the name 'ground' attached to it, which was usually coupled with the surname of the relevant family associated (*ibid*). The 'grounds' therefore represent a unique part of the English landscape which can all be dated to the first years of the 16th century and are restricted to one monastic estate (*ibid*).

3.1.3 There is little available information about the site during this period and it is not until the late 17th and 18th century that records begin to mention Pickthall Ground more frequently, although it then tends to be in relation to specific people (see *Appendix 1*) and aspects of the estate not relevant to the farmstead. During the 19th century there are more specific records, including the will of John Dobson (CRO(B) BD/TB/Wills Box 7/32 1866) and the will of George Dobson (CRO(B) BD/TB/Wills Box 12/28 1879) but neither of these contain any detailed information about the buildings at Pickthall Ground. Indeed, when the estate was put up for auction in 1866 even the sales particulars only list 'House, Outbuildings, Yards and Grounds' (CRO(B) BD Broughton 36 1866). Later documents are similarly unhelpful, providing only details of the changes in tenants (CRO(B) BD/TB 216/9/4 1919). The available map information (see *Section 3.2* below) is considerably more useful in terms of understanding the physical development of the buildings on the site, and therefore much more relevant.

3.2 Map Regression

3.2.1 **Introduction:** several early maps of the site were examined, including Yate's map of Lancashire from 1786 and Hennet's plan of 1830. In both cases Pickthall Ground is shown and named (as Pick Hole on the former and Piked Hall on the latter), but not in enough detail to be of any use. The Tithe Map for the area was very patchy and did not apparently show the site; the earliest useful maps therefore only date to the 19th century.

3.2.2 **Ordnance Survey 1850:** this is the first useful map of the area, and it shows that by this date the farm complex was well developed and consisted of several buildings (Plate 1). The barn is clearly depicted although the scale of the map means that the details are not especially clear. However, it appears to comprise a roughly rectangular block orientated north/south with extensions to the east and west, forming an approximately T-shaped footprint. Other buildings are depicted around the farmyard as well as gardens.

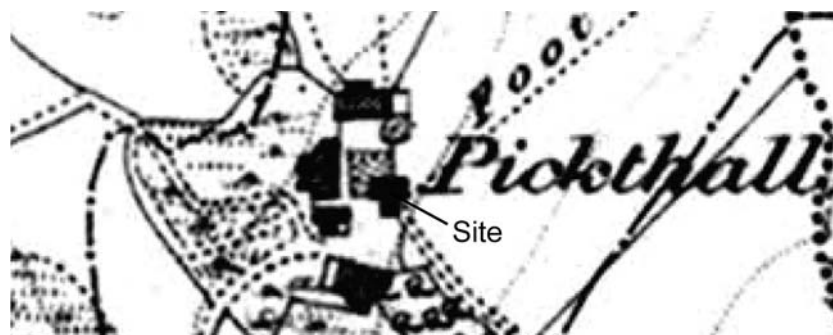


Plate 1: Extract from Ordnance Survey map of 1850

3.2.3 **Sales Particulars, 1877:** this slightly more detailed map was produced to accompany the sale by auction of the farm in 1877 (Plate 2). It depicts a broadly similar arrangement of buildings to the earlier map but with the detail more apparent. The barn is more clearly shown as a T-shaped structure.

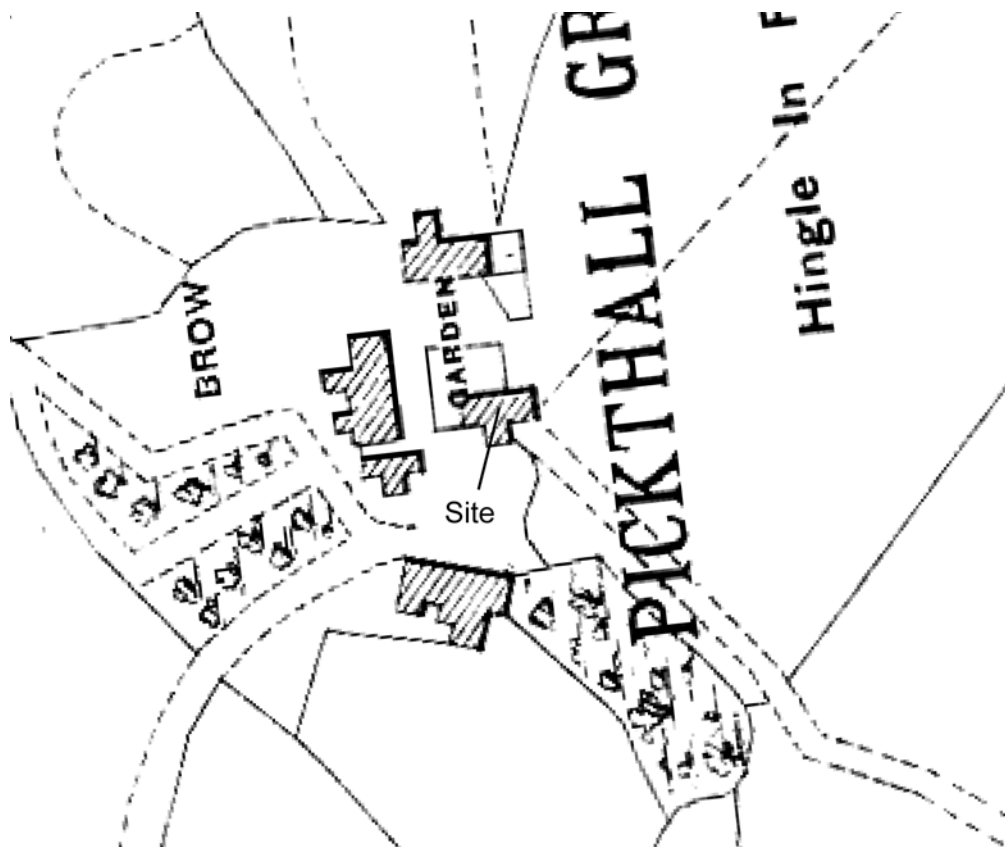


Plate 2: Extract from the plan accompanying the 1877 auction sales particulars

3.2.4 **Ordnance Survey 1890:** by this date there have been a number of evident alterations to the whole farmstead (Plate 3). The farmhouse, to the west of the barn, has evidently been rebuilt, new buildings have been added to the north and south and the barn itself has essentially taken on its present form. It was observed during the building recording that the farmhouse chimney, which is partially made of re-used pieces of dressed red sandstone fire surround, had a date perhaps reading 1883 carved into it.

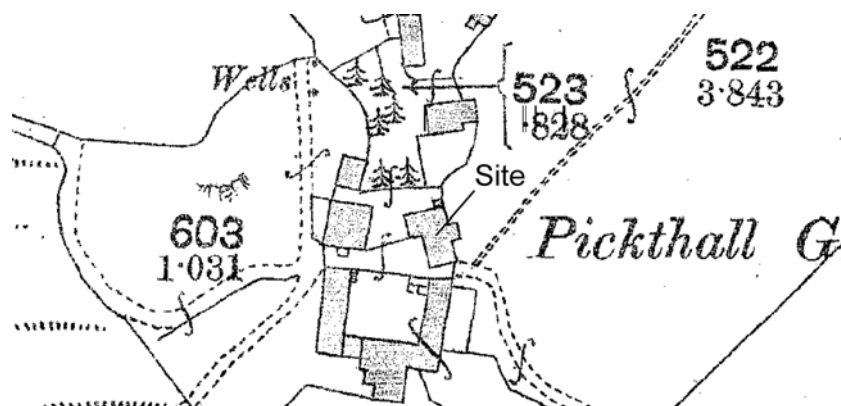


Plate 3: Extract from Ordnance Survey map of 1890

3.2.5 **Ordnance Survey 1913:** this shows that there has been little alteration to the site since the previous mapping, although some rearrangement of the buildings to the north of the barn has evidently taken place (Plate 4).



Plate 4: Extract from Ordnance Survey map of 1913

3.3 Owners and occupiers

3.3.1 **Occupiers:** a list of the presumed occupiers from 1671 until 1989, based on the research of Wallace Greenhalgh, author of *Broughton-in-Furness and the Duddon Valley: A Guide and History* (1989), is presented *Appendix 1* (CRO(B) BDX 549 1547-1999). No specific sources are given but it is apparent that much of the earlier information is taken from the parish registers, and the earlier entries seem to have been assumed to be residents on account of their name rather than any other evidence. In addition, more complete records of the occupiers, as listed in the census (the details of which could be ascertained between 1851 and 1901), are included at the end of *Appendix 1*. In most cases the property to the north is also included as the difference in the two dwellings is not distinguished in the entry. The census shows that the occupiers changed several times during that time and that Pickthall Ground was occupied by farmers and their families although it may have been empty for a while in the 1880s. This probably corresponds with the time at which the house was being rebuilt, an event which is seemingly dated to 1883 (see *Section 3.2.4*). This perhaps also explains the presence of a joiner in the household in 1901.

3.3.2 **Owners:** details of the owners are less certain, although it is likely that they are one and the same at various points. As there is no available Tithe Map, the 1910 Ratings Valuation (CRO(B) BT/IR 1/19 1910) is the only source that can conveniently give the details of both the owner and occupier. Plot 52, which comprises Pickthall Ground and its associated land, describes the farm as a house, buildings, and land, with an additional note in pencil saying 'shooting'. At this time it was owned by Miss M A Burns of Heatherwood Holt, Norfolk (late JP Burns trustees crossed out) and the occupier at this date was James M Todd.

3.4 Conclusion

3.4.1 Pickthall Ground most likely has its origins in at least the early 16th century, although documentary sources only specifically begin to record it in the late 17th century. The barn formed part of a group of buildings arranged around a courtyard; it was certainly in existence when the earliest detailed maps of the area were produced, in the 19th century, but more detailed information is not forthcoming. It is apparent, however, that the building had taken essentially its present form by the mid 19th century, and has changed very little since then, although the rest of the farmstead continued to enlarge after that time.

4. Building Recording

4.1 Arrangement and Fabric

4.1.1 The building is orientated approximately north/south, the north end built into the slope on that side, and is evidently a former threshing barn with small extensions at the north end of the west side and the centre of the east. It is largely constructed from the local volcanic stone laid in random courses, but with very occasional pieces of re-used dressed red sandstone (this appears to be all contained within the western extension). The roof is finished with graduated grey slate, the main roof having much larger slates than the outshuts. The northern two thirds of the east elevation are finished with concrete render, but the walls are otherwise uncovered. Internally the roof structure is largely constructed from hand-finished timbers, although some later machine cut and modern timber has also been used. Modern concrete blocks have been used in blocked openings and for creating a dividing wall on the north side.

4.2 External Detail

4.2.1 **North elevation:** this forms the gable end of the building, and is extended to the west by the monopitch roof of an outshut and is largely obscured by vegetation (Plate 5), although this is in part because it is built into the slope. It is relatively plain, the ground level obscuring much of the wall of the outshut but dropping down at the south end where there is a flight of slate steps (Plate 6). There is an owl hole beneath the apex, with electrical cables passing through it, and an iron bar projecting from the wall below and slightly to the west. A thin line of concrete has been added along the roofline patching the area below the slates.

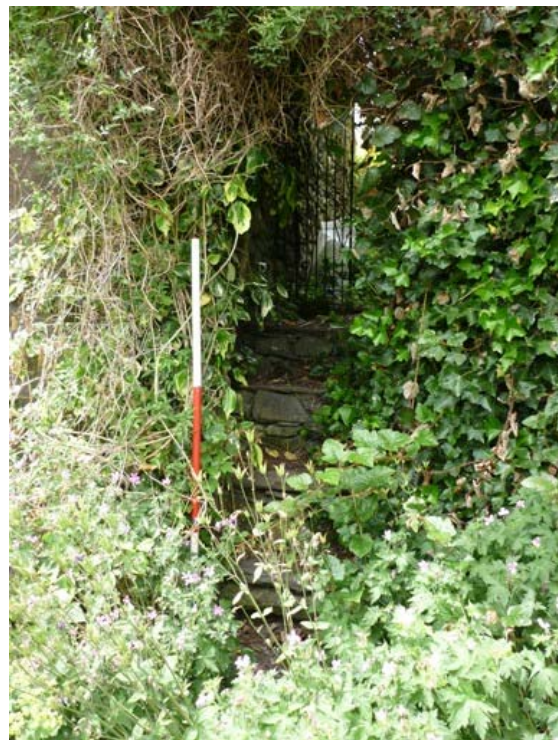


Plate 5 (left): North external elevation

Plate 6 (right): Steps adjacent to north elevation

4.2.2 **East elevation:** the north end is finished with concrete render with a smooth finish, and has a piece of projecting slate high on the south side, perhaps part of a string course or a lintel (Plate 7). At the base of the window there is a long low window with a three-light fixed casement and roofing slates forming the sill. The wall immediately below this is not rendered. The wall returns to the east following the line of the extension on this side. This too is finished with plain concrete render. The return to the south is the same; although there is a large crack in the render here and it has a machine cut timber

wallplate or lintel along the top. The return to the west is not rendered, there are some large quoins at the top of the corner, and the lower part of the extension clearly butts the main wall to the east. There is a wall connecting the south-east corner of the extension to the south-east corner of the main building, which forms a revetted area filled with rubble against the building. The south end of the elevation is also unrendered (Plate 8). It has a narrow ventilation slot at high level, and a wider one at ground floor level, which has been blocked with stone. There are long rough quoins at the south-east corner, although the upper few are larger, more dressed, blocks, and seem to indicate that the building has been raised in height by c1m.



Plate 7 (left): North end of the east external elevation



Plate 8 (right): South end of the east external elevation

4.2.3 **South elevation:** this forms the opposing gable (Plate 9). It has a large plinth at the base pointed with cement and there are rough quoins at either end of the wall, again the top few are more dressed and larger and seem to indicate that the wall has been raised in height. There are two narrow ventilation slots at ground level, both roughly blocked with stone, and two higher level square vents plus a square owl hole beneath the apex. There are other possible square vents lower down, but these are less certain. There is a short boundary wall butting the elevation on the west side incorporating a large boulder and a gate post with a modern gate.



Plate 9: South external elevation

4.2.4 **West elevation:** there is doorway blocked with stone on the south side, with a projecting slate lintel and a ventilation slot above, also blocked (Plate 10). To the north there is a large wagon doorway with an iron I-beam lintel externally and three timber lintels internally with a central block fitting for the door attached (Plate 11). The two central timber lintels are machine cut as is the central block, which also has a section cut out of the centre and chamfered edges. The inner lintel is hand-finished and supported on inserted concrete blocks on the south side and a short section of hand-finished timber on the north side, probably the sawn off end of part of a former canopy. There is an iron gutter above the wagon doorway. The wall returns to the west to the north of the wagon doorway, forming the wall of the outshut, which clearly butts the main wall. There is a slot in the wall lining up with the timber beneath the inner lintel, which evidently formed part of a canopy support, and there is a slate drip course in the outshut wall that evidently follows the line of a monopitch canopy roof. There is a doorway on the west side of the outshut wall, which seems to have been inserted or rebuilt (Plate 12). It has a projecting stone lintel, but concrete has been added over the jambs. There are numerous fragments of re-used dressed red sandstone around this doorway. The garden wall butts against the south-west corner of the outshut, and the raised level of the garden to the west means that the north end of the west elevation is almost entirely obscured.



Plate 10 (left): General view of west external elevation

Plate 11 (right): Wagon doorway within the west elevation



Plate 12: Doorway in the south side of the extension to the west elevation

4.3 Internal Detail

4.3.1 **Room 1:** this forms the main part of the internal space, and includes the upper level above Room 2. The area of the former threshing floor, in the centre of the building, is concrete. To the south it is finished with floorboards orientated east/west laid on machine-cut joists. The roof has two purlins per pitch plus a diagonally-set ridge purlin supported by two trusses, which overlap at the trusses, the ridge

purlin being formed by several scarf-jointed pieces, the joints again meeting at the trusses. Each of these comprises a tie beam and principal rafters, overlapping west on top of east with a notched joint, but there are slots in the principal rafters for a former collar, which is no longer present (Plate 13). The majority of the timber, especially the purlins and trusses, is hand-finished and jointed with pegs, but later timber has been used in places and some modern timber is present at the south-east end. Most of the rafters are machine cut and two further machine cut purlins have also been added within the extension to the east. The backs of the slates are finished with lime plaster. The only part of the north elevation contained within this room is that situated above the inserted floor forming the ceiling of Room 2. It forms one gable end, and incorporates a projecting block supporting the ridge purlin, a blocked owl hole, and two blocked square vents, one on either side. There is modern cabling attached to timber battens extending along the west side and the floor is formed by tongue and groove boards orientated east/west forming the ceiling of Room 2. At a lower level the north elevation is effectively formed by the inserted concrete block wall, which has a doorway with a tongue and groove plank door in the centre and timber boards edging the top (Plate 14).



Plate 13 (left): General view of southern roof truss

Plate 14 (right): Concrete block partition wall

4.3.2 The north end of the east elevation is also above Room 2, and has a blocked ventilation slot at this level. It returns to the east near the centre to form a porch for a wagon doorway (now blocked). The lower part of the north side of this porch evidently butts the main wall of the building, but is continuous with the upper part, suggesting that the porch was added when the wall was raised (Plate 15). A piece of hand-finished timber has been incorporated into the return, and there is a small alcove in the porch wall with a timber lintel into which the initials 'IW' have been scratched. The return to the south evidently originally formed the wagon doorway, which has been blocked with concrete blocks. The return to the west forms the other side of the porched entrance, the lower part of which also butts the main wall while the upper is continuous, and there is also an alcove incorporated into the wall with a timber lintel (Plate 16). The wall returns again to the south, where there is blocked narrow vent at high level and a wider one below with an over-large timber lintel. The southern part of the elevation is finished with a patchy rough plaster, which extends to the base of the upper vent and probably also indicates the height to which the building originally extended. The south elevation also has a patchy rough plaster over the lower part, though less regular in form (Plate 17). It has two tall narrow vents with timber lintels at ground level, both blocked, and two square ones above plus a square owl hole, all of which are also blocked. There are projecting stone slabs connecting to the side walls at either end. The west elevation has a very low level doorway on the south side with a timber lintel with stop chamfer decoration and a second over-long lintel above (Plate 18). There is a narrow ventilation slot above this, which has been blocked with concrete blocks. To the north is the wagon doorway, which has perhaps been widened on its south side. There is a projecting timber stub above its south side, below the truss, and a blocked narrow slot vent above it, which is not evident externally. At the far north end, above Room 2, there is another blocked slot vent.



Plate 15 (left): North flanking wall of porch on east side of Room 1



Plate 16 (right): South flanking wall of porch on east side of Room 1



Plate 17 (left): South internal elevation, Room 1



Plate 18 (right): Blocked doorway in south end of west internal elevation, Room 1

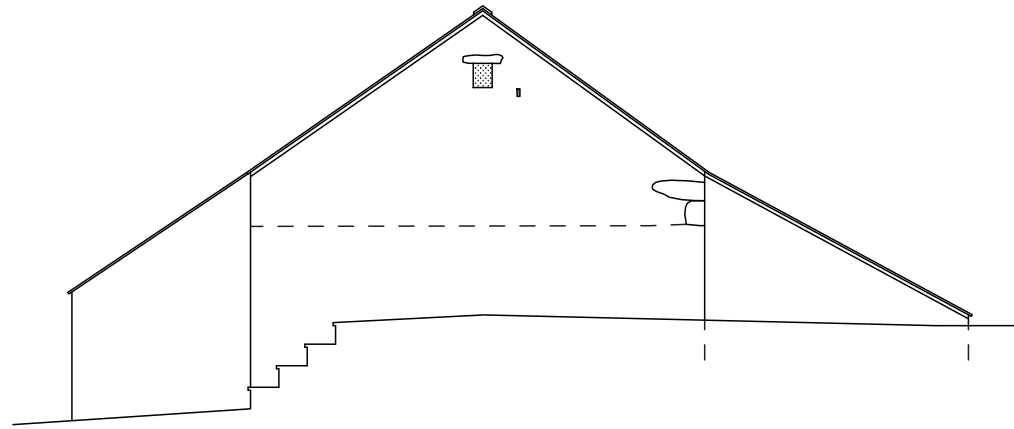
4.3.3 **Room 2:** this forms a small room at the north end of the building, formed by the insertion of the modern concrete block dividing wall and associated ceiling and only occupies part of the ground floor. It has a concrete floor and the ceiling comprises machine cut timber joists orientated north/south supported by a single iron I-beam orientated east/west, which is marked '[...] LONG & C^o [...]SBOROUGH' (most likely Dorman Long and Co of Middlesborough; Plate 19). All of the walls are plain and finished with concrete render, apart from the south, which is of modern concrete block construction with a central plank and batten door. There is a long low window in the east elevation with a fixed three-light casement and iron I-beam lintel and fuse box and electrical fittings attached to the west elevation.



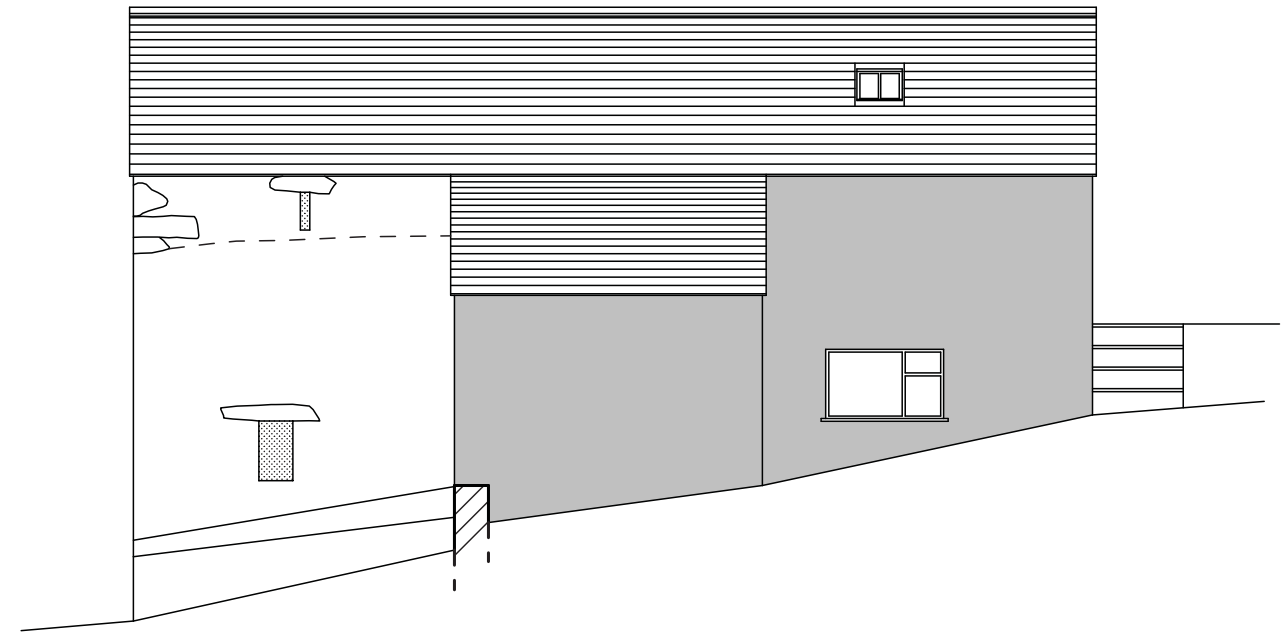
Plate 19: Iron girder supporting ceiling of Room 2

4.3.4 **Room 3:** this is the interior of the western extension. This has a concrete floor and single north/south machine-cut beam supporting the monopitch roof but is largely obscured by stacked firewood. All of the walls are plain and finished with concrete render. There is a doorway to the south with a stone lintel and a split beaded plank door that pivots on a post on the east side.

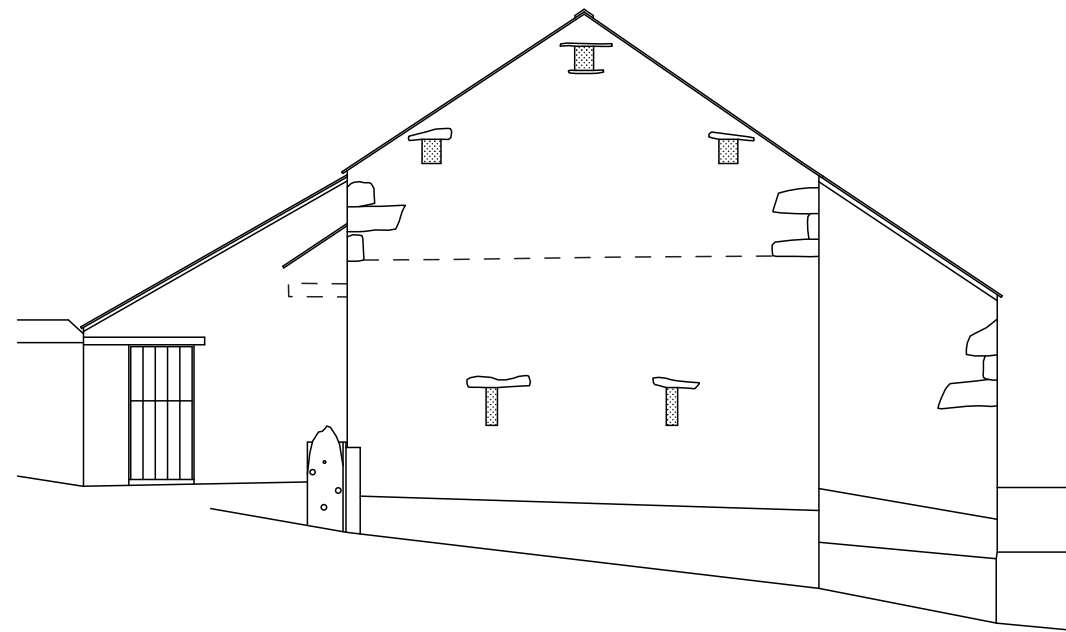
NORTH ELEVATION



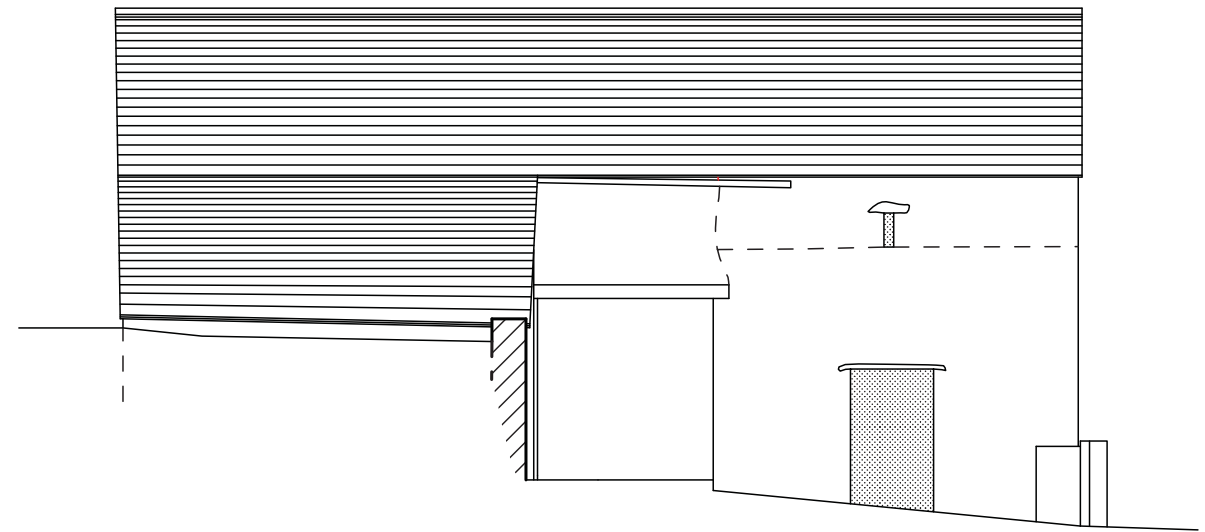
EAST ELEVATION



SOUTH ELEVATION



WEST ELEVATION



Key:  blocked features  cross-sectional wall  concrete

0  5m

Figure 2: External elevations

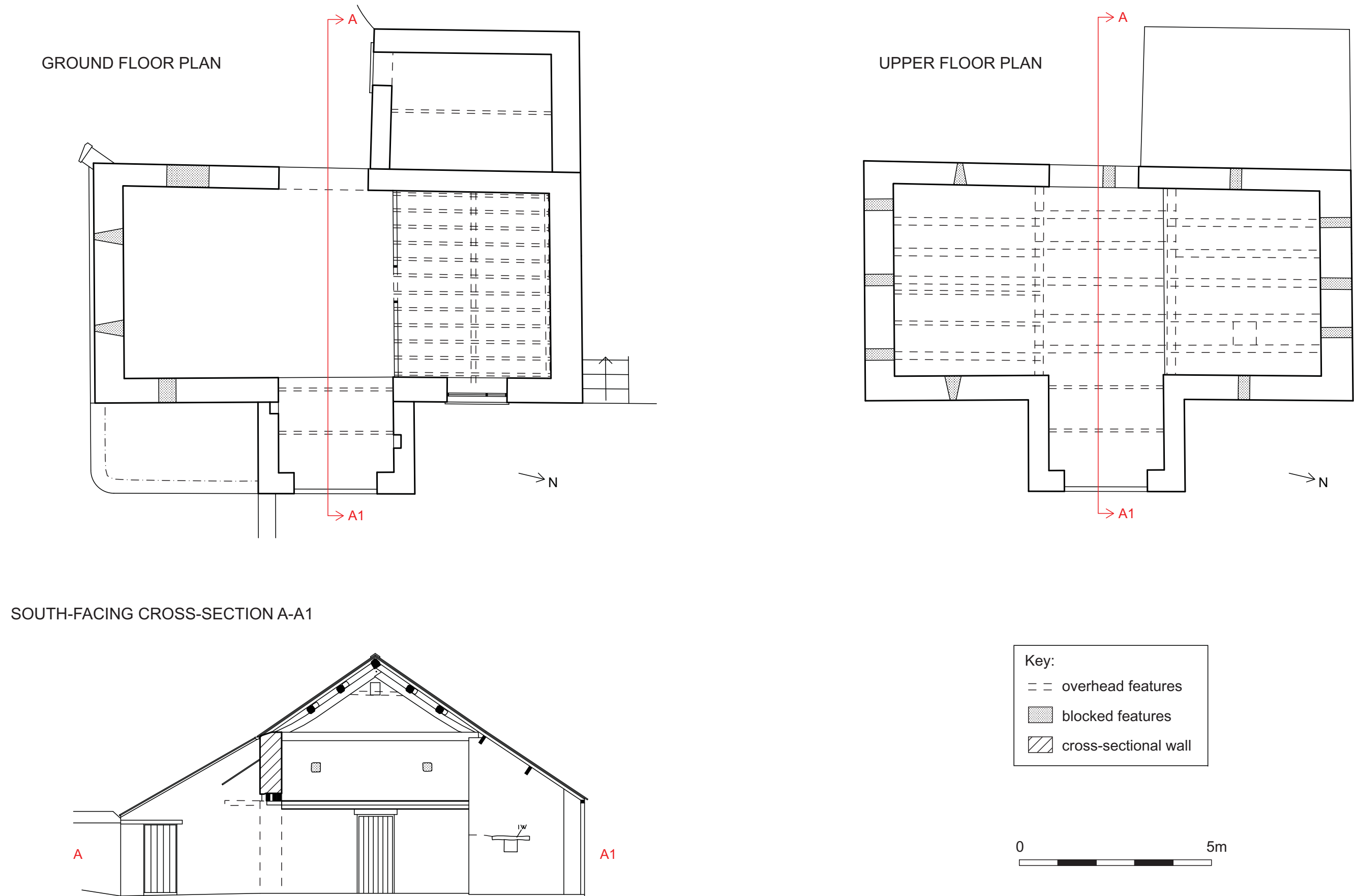


Figure 3: Ground and upper floor plans and south-facing cross-section

5 Discussion

5.1 Phasing

5.1.1 **Introduction:** despite the relative simplicity of the building and the paucity of documentary sources specifically relating to it, it is apparent that the barn has had a number of alterations made to it. The earliest of these cannot be readily dated and the latest can only be broadly dated through reference to the available mapping. Nevertheless a general chronology of development can be determined.

5.1.2 **Phase 1 (16th – 17th century?):** the building, as originally constructed, comprised a small threshing barn orientated north/south, with ventilation slots for winnowing grain on at least the ground floor, and a doorway in the west elevation, with chamfered lintel, perhaps leading to an area below a hay loft. The north end is now built into the slope, which would suggest that the building was constructed as a variant bank barn, although there is no evidence for any access via the slope at this end. It is perhaps more likely that this banked effect is caused by the later raising of the ground level of the adjoining garden (in Phase 2, see *Section 5.1.3* below). The form of the roof during this phase is difficult to determine although it could have been cruck framed – other examples are recorded in the general area (DVLHG and LDNP 2009, 55) and there is evidence for re-used timber, perhaps former cruck blades, in the barn and the larger bank barn on the opposite side of the courtyard. The dating of this building is uncertain: although it could potentially belong to the first period of development of Pickthall Ground in the early 16th century, it could quite easily be slightly later. Only more detailed investigation such as dendrochronological analysis of the re-used timbers could provide more detail, and that would have to be based on the assumption that they were from the original phase of building and had not been brought from elsewhere. The re-use of materials was carried out from an early date (see Tyson 2000) and it is entirely possible that the timber could have been used a number of times.

5.1.3 **Phase 2 (18th –19th century):** it is apparent that the building was raised in height at an early date, and at the same time a new porch was added around the wagon doorway to the east and probably also the canopy over the corresponding doorway to the west. The dating of this event is again not certain. The initials 'IW' scratched into the lintel over one of the alcoves in the north wall of the porch to the east could be those of John Wright (see *Appendix 1*), who was resident in the early 18th century; the style of the 'W' is also fitting for this date as is the use of an I for J. The style of the roof trusses is also fitting for an 18th or early 19th century date (Brunskill 2002, 153). The extension to the west was also undoubtedly added during this general period; the map evidence certainly shows that it was in place by the middle of the 19th century, and it appears to have been effectively buried by the raising of the ground level of the garden to the west to form a terrace against the barn (which probably corresponds to the rebuilding of the house shown by the map evidence to have taken place in the late 19th century and perhaps dated 1883; see *Section 3.2.4* above. However, pottery found in the topsoil of the garden included a large proportion of slipware and mottled ware of 17th century date, as well as later types, although this could have been imported from elsewhere). It is likely that the large bank barn on the opposite side of the yard was built during this period, perhaps in effect putting this building out of use to some extent, which might account for its gradual decline in the following phase.

5.1.4 **Phase 3 (20th century):** during this period a concrete block wall was added to form a partition with a ceiling above constructed from timber and iron girders. The dating of these is difficult as Dorman Long and Co were established in the 19th century and continued in operation into the 20th century, becoming a major steel manufacturer by the 1920s (Frey 1929). The barn was connected to the mains electricity, with extensive cabling added, and the window in the north side of the east elevation was also undoubtedly added at this time as well as the concrete skim over the east elevation and corresponding blocking of the eastern wagon doorway. The western doorway was also modified with a new iron lintel added and the earlier canopy removed. Throughout the building the winnowing slots were blocked and it appears to have been used largely for storage before gradually falling into disrepair. More recently elements of the roof have been repaired to prevent collapse.

5.2 Discussion and Significance

5.2.1 The barn at Pickthall Ground is potentially one of the earliest structures still standing on the site, or at least is likely to contain some of the earliest surviving fabric. Its gradual transformation from a relatively small, low structure, to a larger one with increased access is perhaps connected most closely to changes in the types of vehicles used on a site such as this. However, its small size is what probably led to its gradual dereliction.

5.2.2 It is significant as an early example of a barn of its type, although due to the extensive alterations that were made it is perhaps a better example of an 18th or early 19th century threshing barn than anything earlier. Ideally as much of the original fabric as possible should be retained in the proposed renovation, although it would potentially be beneficial to the building if the additions made in Phase 3 were removed. It might also be of benefit to the building if the ground built up against the north and north-west ends was removed as this could prevent damp problems. In addition, rebuilding should perhaps take into consideration the use of traditional techniques such as the use of lime pointing and render and hand-worked timber.

5.2.3 It is considered unlikely that a great deal of additional information will be gained through further investigation during or after renovation. However, if the features from Phase 3 were removed, in particular the concrete skim over the east elevation and the interior of Room 2, this might reveal additional features of interest. In addition, if any of the garden to the north and north-west were removed or the level lowered this too would be worth further investigation, particularly in order to establish whether there was any access into the building at ground level in these locations, whether the ground level was indeed built up at this side rather than the building having originally been constructed as a bank barn, and potentially to provide an opportunity to investigate the context of the relatively early pottery discovered in the garden.

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Appendix 1: Occupiers of Pickthall Ground

After: CRO(B) BDX 549 1547-1999

| Date | Event |
|--|---|
| 1671 30 th Apr 3 rd Sept | Birth of Agnes, Daughter of John Pickthall Birth of Ellen, Daughter of John Pickthall |
| 1676 11Mar | Birth of Ellan, daughter of John Park |
| 1680 1 st Jul | Birth of John, son of John Pickthall |
| 1701 12 th June | Birth of Thomas, son of Robert Hartley - yeoman |
| 1707 17 th Jan | Birth of Briget, daughter of Robert Pickthall |
| 1711 5 th June 25 Nov | The death of John Pickthall The marriage of James Pickthall |
| 1719 1 st October | Birth of John, son of John Pritt - carpenter |
| 1721 30 th Sept | Birth of Anne, daughter of William Stephenson - yeoman |
| 1725 1 st Aug | Death of James Pickthall - yeoman |
| 1727 9 th Apr 19 th Apr 29th Oct | Birth of Robert, son of Thomas Hartley – yeoman Death of Robert, son of Thomas Hartley - yeoman Marriage of Thomas Bragg of Newton, Gosforth and Margaret Jackson |
| 1728 16 th Jan | Birth of John, son of Thomas Hartley - yeoman |
| 1730 7 th Nov | Birth of Agnes, son of John Wright - yeoman |
| 1731 26 th Nov | Birth of Mary, daughter of Richard Hill - yeoman |
| 1734 27 th Apr | Birth of Betty, daughter of John Wright – yeoman Birth of William, son of Richard Hill - yeoman |
| 1737 19 th Aug | Birth of Susanne, daughter of John Wright |
| 1740 13 th June | Birth of Mary, daughter of John Wright |
| 1743 16 th Jul | Birth of John, son of Lawrence Ashburner |
| 1745 4 th Feb | Birth of William, son of Lawrence Ashburner |
| 1746 2 nd Jan | Death of Jane, wife of Robert Hartley |
| 1747 3 rd feb | Death of John Wright, householder |
| 1754 30 th Dec | Death of Margaret Banks |
| 1755 5 th Apr | Birth of Matthew, son of William Carter |
| 1757 31 st Dec | Birth of William, son of William Carter |
| 1759 25 th May | Death of William Carter |
| 1764 25 th Jan | Death of Lawrence Ashburner |
| 1766 22 nd Nov | Birth of Sarah, daughter of John Ashburner |
| 1768 5 th Aug 30 th Sept | Death of William Collison, householder Birth of Jenny, daughter of John Ashburner |
| 1771 23 rd Apr | Birth of Mary, Daughter of John Ashburner |
| 1773 7 th Jun | Birth of Briget, daughter of John Ashburner |
| 1774 10 th May | Death of Mary Collison, widow |
| 1775 10 Dec | Birth of Stephen, son of Stephen Barker |
| 1776 4 th Oct | Death of Bridget Ashburner - widow |
| 1777 16 th Nov | Birth child of John Ashburner |
| 1781 8 th Dec | Birth child of John Ashburner - Rawfold |
| 1782 23 rd Oct | Birth of Mary, daughter of John Benson |
| 1783 1 st Jun | Birth of John, son of John Atkinson |
| 1784 28 th Dec | Birth of Joseph, son of John Atkinson |
| 1786 24 th June | Birth of Betty, daughter of John Atkinson |
| 1788 9 th January | Birth of Anne, daughter of John Atkinson |
| 1789 26 th July | Birth of Margaret, daughter of John Atkinson |
| 1791 26 th Jun | Birth of Richard, son of John Atkinson - Sykehouse |
| 1795 8 th September | Death of Thomas Casson |
| 1806 20 th April | Birth of Ann, daughter of John Tyson, labourer |
| 1807 21 st November | Birth of Thomas, son of Thomas Pritt, labourer |
| 1808 10 th July | Birth of Sarah, daughter of John Deswick(?), husbandman |
| 1810 30 th June | Birth of Isaac, son of John Gaitskel, husbandman |

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24 Barn at Pickthall Ground Farm, Broughton Mills, Broughton-in-Furness, Cumbria: Archaeological Building Recording

| Date | Event |
|------|---|
| 1825 | Marriage of Jane Troughton |
| 1829 | Marriage(?) of Thomas Douglas |
| 1834 | Marriage of Robert Graveson and Elizabeth Jenkinson |
| 1844 | Marriage of John Barnes |
| 1851 | Robert Postlethwaite |
| 1866 | John Dobson |
| 1876 | John Bainbridge |
| 1884 | Isaac Hodgson |
| 1980 | Stephen Cragg and Robin Woodhouse |
| 1989 | HS Senogles |

From the 1851-1901 Census

| 1851 Census HO107/Piece 2275 | | | | |
|------------------------------|-----|---------------------------------------|-----------------|----------------------------|
| Name | Age | Occupation | Address | Place of Birth |
| Thomas Carter | 31 | Agricultural labourer | Pickthallground | Ulpha, Cumberland |
| Sarah Carter | 34 | | Pickthallground | Irton, Cumberland |
| Rodger Postlethwaite | 41 | Farmer 104 acres employing 1 ag. lab. | Pickthallground | Kirkby Ireleth, Lancashire |
| Sarah Postlethwaite | 32 | | Pickthallground | Urswick, Lancashire |
| Margaret? Postlethwaite | 14 | Farmer's daughter | Pickthallground | Thwaite, Cumberland |
| Isabella Postlethwaite | 8 | Scholar | Pickthallground | Thwaite, Cumberland |
| Elizabeth Postlethwaite | 7 | - | Pickthallground | Thwaite, Cumberland |
| Sarah Postlethwaite | 5 | - | Pickthallground | Thwaite, Cumberland |
| John Postlethwaite | 4 | | Pickthallground | Thwaite, Cumberland |
| James Postlethwaite | 2 | | Pickthallground | Dunnerdale, Lancashire |
| Isabella Postlethwaite | 77 | Annuitant | Pickthallground | Kirkby Ireleth, Cumberland |
| James Atkinson | 35 | Farm servant | Pickthallground | Lowick, Lancashire |
| Martin Cole | 14 | Farm servant | Pickthallground | Ulpha, Cumberland |

| 1861 Census RG9/Piece 3172 | | | | |
|----------------------------|-----|-----------------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| Name | Age | Occupation | Address | Place of Birth |
| Samual Hartley | 63 | Land proprietor | Pickthallground | Millom, Cumberland |
| Phoebe Hartley | 58 | | Pickthallground | Eskdale, Cumberland |
| Elizabeth Hartley | 22? | | Pickthallground | Cleator, Cumberland |
| John Dobson | 68 | Retired farmer | Pickthallground | Millom, Cumberland |
| Elizabeth Dobson | 73 | - | Pickthallground | Whicham, Cumberland |
| John Dobson | 31 | Agricultural labourer | Pickthallground | Whicham, Cumberland |
| Mary Landwith | 69 | Border | Pickthallground | Whicham, Cumberland |

| 1871 Census RG10/Piece 4246 | | | | |
|-----------------------------|-----|--------------|------------------|----------------------------|
| Name | Age | Occupation | Address | Place of Birth |
| Robert Casson | 47 | Farm Bailiff | Pickthall Ground | Subberthwaite, Lancashire |
| Hannah Casson | 47 | | Pickthall Ground | Broughton, Lancashire |
| Agnes Casson | 17 | | Pickthall Ground | Kirkby Ireleth, Lancashire |
| Thomas Casson | 13 | Scholar | Pickthall Ground | Kirkby Ireleth, Lancashire |
| Mary Casson | 11 | Scholar | Pickthall Ground | Woodland, Lancashire |
| Hannah Casson | 8 | Scholar | Pickthall Ground | Woodland, Lancashire |
| Mary Bellman | 58 | Char woman | Pickthall Ground | Broughton, Lancashire |

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| 1881 Census RG11/Piece 4283 | | | | |
|------------------------------------|------------|-------------------|------------------|-----------------------|
| Name | Age | Occupation | Address | Place of Birth |
| George Dobson | 41 | Farmer 42 acres | Pickthall Ground | Broughton, Lancashire |
| [one property unoccupied] | | | | |

| 1891 Census RG12/Piece 3480 | | | | |
|------------------------------------|------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------------|
| Name | Age | Occupation | Address | Place of Birth |
| Walton Hodgson | 73 | Farmer | Pickthall Ground | Dunnerdale, Lancashire |
| Hannah Hodgson | 40 | | Pickthall Ground | Seathwaite, Lancashire |
| Hannah Hodgson | 11 | | Pickthall Ground | Dunnerdale, Lancashire |
| William Tyson | 28 | Farm servant | Pickthall Ground | Seathwaite, Lancashire |
| John E. Tyson | ?? | Farm servant | Pickthall Ground | Broughton, Lancashire |
| Jane Tyson | 20 | Domestic servant | Pickthall Ground | Coniston, Lancashire |

| 1901 Census RG13/Piece 4008 | | | | |
|------------------------------------|------------|------------------------------|------------------|----------------------------|
| Name | Age | Occupation | Address | Place of Birth |
| Isaac Hodgson | 58 | Farmer | Pickthall Ground | Dunnerdale, Lancashire |
| Margaret Hodgson | 90 | ?? | Pickthall Ground | Isle of Walney, Lancashire |
| John Hodgson | 55 | Farmer | Pickthall Ground | Dunnerdale, Lancashire |
| John Atkinson | 78 | Joiner | Pickthall Ground | Colton, Lancashire |
| Margaret Nicholson | 36 | Servant (Domestic) | Pickthall Ground | Blawith, Lancashire |
| James H Jonson | 15 | Farm servant | Pickthall Ground | Dalton, Lancashire |
| Fanny Man | 52 | Living on own means | Pickthall Ground | Morecambe, Lancashire |
| Lucy W Jones | 50 | Visitor: living on own means | Pickthall Ground | Morecambe, Lancashire |
| Amelia K Rigg | 13 | Domestic servant | Pickthall Ground | London |